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 ACTION 10-16

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	AMAD-01	ARA-01	CIAE-00	C-01
	OASY-00	DODE-00	EAP-01	EB-01	EUR-01	HA-09	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	L-01	ADS-00	NEA-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	PA-01	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00
	STR-01	TRSE-00	USIE-00	SA-01	RPE-01	/044W	

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O 091447Z MAY 94

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9157

INFO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PHUM, UNHRC-1, RW

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: CANADA CALLS FOR

- SPECIAL SESSION ON RWANDA

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 REF: A) GENEVA 4221, B) WAGENSEIL/LEADER TELCON 5/9/94

1. CANADA HAS FORMALLY REQUESTED A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THE SITUATION IN RWANDA. THE REQUEST, ADDRESSED TO HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AYALA LASSO, WAS DELIVERED MIDAFTERNOON MONDAY TO ASYG IBRAHIMA FALL, DIRECTOR OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER, BY THE CANADIAN CHARGE. THE CENTER WILL NOW CIRCULATE THE REQUEST TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE UNHRC, ASKING WHETHER THEY SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL.

2. AFFIRMATIVE REPLIES FROM A SIMPLE MAJORITY (27 OF THE 53 MEMBER STATES) ARE REQUIRED. WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS AT THE CENTER TELL US THAT SINCE THIS THURSDAY IS A HOLIDAY, THE FOUR-DAY DEADLINE FOR REPLIES WILL END AT 6:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 16. THE SPECIAL SESSION MUST START BETWEEN FOUR AND SIX WORKING DAYS THEREAFTER, I.E., EITHER FRIDAY MAY 20 OR TUESDAY, MAY 24 (MAY 23 IS ANOTHER HOLIDAY IN GENEVA.) THE SESSION COULD LAST EITHER ONE OR TWO DAYS.

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3. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH A NUMBER OF AFRICAN DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR HOLDING THE SPECIAL SESSION. LAST WEEK'S EVIDENT RELUCTANCE TO GET OUT IN FRONT ON THE ISSUE APPEARS TO BE GIVING WAY TO GRATITUDE THAT ANOTHER STATE HAS TAKEN THE INITIATIVE. A NIGERIAN COLLEAGUE, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS MOST PLEASED THAT THE QUESTION IS NOW SIMPLY ONE OF WHETHER OR NOT TO SUPPORT THE IDEA, WHICH CAN BE TAKEN BY INDIVIDUAL STATES, RATHER THAN HAVING TO BRING THE AFRICAN GROUP TO A COMMON DECISION TO START SOMETHING ON THEIR OWN. THE AMBASSADOR OF MAURITIUS PROMISED TO SEND A HAND-WRITTEN

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NOTE TO HIS FOREIGN MINISTER BY FAX IMMEDIATELY, URGING PERMISSION TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL. SEPARATELY, THE AMBASSADOR SPOKE WITH SENEGAL'S AMBASSADOR KA, WHO EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO BE OF ASSISTANCE. WE WILL WORK TO GET THE CANADIANS IN TOUCH WITH THE SENEGALESE.

4. MISSION RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT INSTRUCT AF POSTS (AS WELL AS EMBASSIES TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION) TO URGE HOST GOVERNMENTS TO RESPOND PROMPTLY, AND POSITIVELY, TO THE CANADIAN CALL FOR A SPECIAL SESSION. MISSION ALSO AWAITS INSTRUCTIONS FORMAL;LY CONFIRMING U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION. PLEASE ADVISE.

5. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. SPIEGEL

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